

Medicare Coverage Summary

Coverage Guidance¹

B-type natriuretic peptide (BNP) is a cardiac neurohormone produced mainly in the left ventricle. It is secreted in response to ventricular volume expansion and pressure overload, factors often found in congestive heart failure (CHF). Used in conjunction with other clinical information, rapid measurement of BNP is useful in establishing or excluding the diagnosis and assessing the severity of CHF in patients with acute dyspnea so that appropriate and timely treatment can be initiated. This test is also used to predict the long-term risk of cardiac events or death across the spectrum of acute coronary syndromes when measured in the first few days after an acute coronary event.

Covered Indications

BNP measurements may be considered reasonable and necessary when used in combination with other medical data such as medical history, physical examination, laboratory studies, chest x-ray, and electrocardiography:

- To distinguish cardiac cause of acute dyspnea from pulmonary or other non-cardiac causes. Plasma BNP levels are significantly increased in patients with CHF presenting with acute dyspnea compared with patients presenting with acute dyspnea due to other causes.
- To distinguish decompensated CHF from exacerbated chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) in a symptomatic patient with combined chronic CHF and COPD. Plasma BNP levels are significantly increased in patients with CHF with or without concurrent lung disease compared with patients who have primary lung disease.
- To establish prognosis or disease severity in chronic CHF when needed to guide therapy
- To achieve optimal dosing of guideline-directed medical therapy (GDMT) in select clinically euvolemic patients followed in a well-structured heart failure (HF) disease management program
- To guide therapeutic decision-making in individuals who have amyloidosis

Limitations

BNP measurements must be analyzed in conjunction with standard diagnostic tests, medical history and clinical findings. The efficacy of BNP measurement as a stand-alone test has not yet been established. Clinicians should be aware that certain conditions such as ischemia, infarction and renal insufficiency, may cause elevation of circulating BNP concentration and require alterations of the interpretation of BNP results.

Ordering Provider Documentation Requirements²

The patient's medical record must contain documentation that fully supports the medical necessity for services included within the related LCD. (See "Indications and Limitations of Coverage.") This documentation includes, but is not limited to, relevant medical history, physical examination, and results of pertinent diagnostic tests or procedures. Each claim must be submitted with ICD-10-CM

¹ Medicare LCD L33573

² Medicare LCD A56826

codes that reflect the condition of the patient, and indicate the reason(s) for which the service was performed. Claims submitted without ICD-10-CM codes will be returned. Documentation must be available to Medicare upon request.

Utilization Guidelines:

Frequency of testing should be guided by the clinical circumstances and evidence-based literature.

ICD-10-CM Codes that Support Medical Necessity

E85.81	Light chain (AL) amyloidosis
E85.82	Wild-type transthyretin-related (ATTR) amyloidosis
E85.89	Other amyloidosis
I11.0	Hypertensive heart disease with heart failure
I13.0	Hypertensive heart and CKD with heart failure and stage 1 through stage 4 CKD, or unspecified CKD
I13.2	Hypertensive heart and CKD with heart failure and with stage 5 CKD, or ESRD
I50.1	Left ventricular failure, unspecified
I50.20	Unspecified systolic (congestive) heart failure
I50.21	Acute systolic (congestive) heart failure
I50.22	Chronic systolic (congestive) heart failure
I50.23	Acute on chronic systolic (congestive) heart failure
I50.30	Unspecified diastolic (congestive) heart failure
I50.31	Acute diastolic (congestive) heart failure
I50.32	Chronic diastolic (congestive) heart failure
I50.33	Acute on chronic diastolic (congestive) heart failure
I50.40	Unspecified combined systolic (congestive) and diastolic (congestive) heart failure
I50.41	Acute combined systolic (congestive) and diastolic (congestive) heart failure
I50.42	Chronic combined systolic (congestive) and diastolic (congestive) heart failure
I50.43	Acute on chronic combined systolic (congestive) and diastolic (congestive) heart failure
I50.810	Right heart failure, unspecified
I50.811	Acute right heart failure
I50.812	Chronic right heart failure
I50.813	Acute on chronic right heart failure
I50.814	Right heart failure due to left heart failure
I50.82	Biventricular heart failure
I50.83	High output heart failure
I50.84	End stage heart failure
I50.89	Other heart failure
I50.9	Heart failure, unspecified
J44.0	Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease with (acute) lower respiratory infection
J44.1	Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease with (acute) exacerbation
J45.901	Unspecified asthma with (acute) exacerbation
J98.01	Acute bronchospasm
R06.00	Dyspnea, unspecified
R06.01	Orthopnea
R06.02	Shortness of breath
R06.03	Acute respiratory distress
R06.09	Other forms of dyspnea
R06.2	Wheezing
R06.82	Tachypnea, not elsewhere classified
R06.89	Other abnormalities of breathing
R06.9	Unspecified abnormalities of breathing